

## **TOWN MEETING WARRANT**

To the inhabitants of the Town of Newmarket, County of Rockingham, in the State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote in Town affairs:

## FIRST SESSION

You are hereby notified to meet for the First (Deliberative) Session of the annual budgetary town meeting, to be held at the Newmarket Junior-Senior High School, Newmarket, NH on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of February 2024 being a Saturday, at nine in the forenoon (9 A.M.) The First (Deliberative) Session will consist of explanation, discussion, and debate of each of the following warrant articles, and will afford those voters who are present the opportunity to propose, debate and adopt amendments to each warrant article, except those articles whose wording is prescribed by state law.

## SECOND SESSION

You are also notified to meet for the Second Session of the annual town meeting, to elect town officers by official ballot and to vote by official ballot on the warrant articles as they may have been amended at the First Session, to be held at the Newmarket Town Hall, Newmarket NH, on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2024, being Tuesday, at seven o'clock in the forenoon (the polls are to be open at 7:00 A.M. and may not close prior to 7:00 P.M.) to act upon the following:

**Article 1.** To choose the following officers for the coming year:

| One Municipal Budget Committee Member | Two Years   |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| Two Planning Board Members            | Three Years |
| Moderator                             | Two Years   |
| One Supervisor of the Checklist       | Six Years   |
| One Town Clerk – Tax Collector        | Three Years |
| One Trustee of the Trust Funds        | Three Years |

- Article 2. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars and no cents (\$300,000) for the purpose of all work needed to identify, engineer, purchase of materials, and replace water system services improving compliance with the Federal Lead and Copper Rule. Such sum to be raised by the issuance of Serial Bonds or Notes not to exceed \$300,000 under, and in compliance with, the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (NH RSA 33:1 et seq., as amended) and to authorize the Town Council to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the date, term of payment, and rate of interest thereon. Further, to take such other actions as may be necessary to affect the issuance, negotiation, sale and delivery of such bonds or notes as shall be in the best interest of the Town of Newmarket, NH. Additionally, to authorize the Town Council to apply for, receive, and expend Federal and State Grants which may at any time become available in accordance with RSA 31:95b, and to apply for, receive, and expend money from any other Governmental Unit or Private Source to be used for purposes which the Town Council may legally appropriate money. It is anticipated that the Town will receive up to \$210,000 in principal forgiveness from the State Revolving Fund loan program. If passed there will be no impact on the tax rate. (2/3 Vote Required) Recommended by the Town Council 6-0. Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee 9-0.
- Article 3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and no cents (\$73,500) for the purpose of stormwater planning work relative to investigating and identifying potential sources of pollution within the Moonlight Brook watershed in accordance with State and Federal water quality guidelines (the "Project"), such sum to be raised by the

issuance of serial bonds or notes not to exceed \$73,500 in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (NH RSA Chapter 33); and to authorize the Town Council and Treasurer to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes, to determine the rate of interest thereon, and to take such actions as may be necessary to effect the issuance, negotiation, sale and delivery of such bonds or notes as shall be in the best interest of the Town; and additionally to authorize the Town to apply for and accept grants or other funds to reduce amounts to be repaid on such bonds or notes, and participate in the State Revolving Fund (SRF) established in RSA 486:14 for this purpose. This project is contingent upon approval of a Clean Water SRF loan, which may include up to 100% of loan principal forgiveness. (2/3 Vote Required) *If passed, it is estimated that this article will have no impact on the tax rate. Recommended by the Town Council 7-0. Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee 9-0.* 

## Article 4.

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Million, Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars and no cents (\$1,750,000) for the purpose of rehabilitating the sewer collection system. Such sum to be raised by the issuance of Serial Bonds or Notes not to exceed \$1,750,000 under, and in compliance with, the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (NH RSA 33:1 et seq., as amended) and to authorize the Town Council to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the date, term of payment, and rate of interest thereon. Further, to take such other actions as may be necessary to affect the issuance, negotiation, sale and delivery of such bonds or notes as shall be in the best interest of the Town of Newmarket, NH. Additionally, to authorize the Town Council to apply for, receive, and expend Federal and State Grants which may at any time become available in accordance with RSA 31:95b, and also to apply for, receive, and expend money from any other Governmental Unit or Private Source to be used for purposes which the Town Council may legally appropriate money. It is anticipated that the Town will receive up to \$612,500 in principal forgiveness from the State Revolving Fund loan program. (2/3 Vote Required) If passed, it is estimated that this article will have no impact on the tax rate, but will have an impact on the sewer rates. Recommended by the Town Council 7-0. Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee 10-0.

Article 5. To see if the Town will raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$17,687,830? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$17,078,955 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law; or the Town Council may hold one special meeting, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. If passed, it is estimated that passage of this article will amount to \$7.48 of the tax rate, which is a sixty-nine cent increase over the previous year. If the article is defeated, the default budget will amount to \$6.87, which is an eight-cent increase over the previous year. (Majority vote required) Recommended by the Municipal Budget Committee 9-0. Recommended by the Town Council 7-0.

Given under our hands and seals this  $\underline{//}$  day of January, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty - four.

Town Council, Town of Newmarket, NH

Salar Market, NH

Brian Ward, Vice Chair

Brian Ward, Vice Chair

Joe Landattina, Councilor

Sonke Dornblut Councilor

Scott Blackstone, Councilor